RAWSONVILLE, ONE OF THE OLDEST VILLAGES, CLAIMS RECORD FOR AGES OF SIX OF IT'S NINE REMAINING RESIDENTS

Aged Residents Hope For Return Of Busy Days When Rawsonville Was Thriving Industrial Village

EVEN LITTLE CHURCH NO LONGER HOUSES WORSHIPERS

Average Age Of Six Oldest Pioneers 78; Henry Leonard Oldest Resident, Was Born In 1848

Rawsonville, among the oldest villages on record in the county, now claims to have the greatest number of pioneers in proportion to the population, of any town in the state. There are in this village exactly nine inhabitants. Two more spend week ends only in the village.

Among these nine people there are six whose ages average 78 years. These aged people who have spent the greater part of their lives in or very near the little village, have seen many industries carried on within its borders, have worshiped at the little church when it was crowded with villagers; have sent their children to the little school house where they were taught their A B C's in the old-fashioned way.

Then the Decline

They have seen the passing of the woolen and grist mills, blacksmith shop and stores, one by one. They have seen the village population around the 300 mark.

A large subdivision, the largest in the township, has taken the place of several farms, comprising an area of a mile square; it has arisen about 30 rods from the village limits. The subdivision has graded streets and sidewalks throughout.

About a half mile distant they have seen a railroad built and prospects of other changes are in evidence.

HENRY LEONARD OLDEST RESIDENT

Henry Leonard who was 81 October 5, is the oldest resident in the village. He was born in Genesee County, New York, but came with his parents to Michigan when he was but a small boy and has lived the greater part of the past 70 years in or near Rawsonville which he has seen fall from one of the most important and flourishing villages in the vicinity to a mere "wide spot in the road".

Mrs. Mary Leonard, who was born in New York state, May 8, 1851, came to Michigan when she was very young, moving to Rawsonville when she was 10, and has since resided in or near the village. She and Mr. Leonard live in a small house on the site where her grandfather and great-grandfather had homes before her. Her home twice was burned down. Both Mr. and Mrs. Leonard have been married twice.

Mr. Leonard has three children, Mrs. Delia Mullen of Ludington, Mrs. Lettie Hulbert and David Leonard of Manistee. Mrs. Leonard has three children, Mrs. Harriett Smith of Cleveland, Mrs. Essie Freeman of Ypsilanti and David Jackson of Coshocton, Ohio. The Leonards have been married thirty-seven years.

Was Mail Carrier

The postal headquarters were at Belleville which was the largest village in the vicinity at the time of the Civil War. He succeeded his father as mail carrier and carried mail from Belleville to Ypsilanti on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays and from Belleville to Flat Rock on Wednesdays. The round trip to Flat Rock was by the way of Romulus, New Boston, Swan Creek and back by way of Rawsonville, a distance of about 42 miles. Between New Boston and Swan Creek there were five miles of narrow road through a dense forest and yet there were never any holdups, Mr. Leonard states.

On the Ypsilanti trip, passengers, families of absent soldiers, often rode with Mr. Leonard in his buggy. This buggy was used unless the condition of the roads was so bad that it was necessary to ride horseback.

No Mail Sorted

At that time a postman had little responsibility. The mail was carried in a big locked leather bag or pouch. In Belleville at the post office all mail for villages on his route was placed without regard to sorting, in this pouch. When the postman arrived at the post office which was as a rule in a general store, the post master unlocked the bag sorted out the mail for that office, put in any which was to be sent out of the village and relocked the pouch.

When the postman returned to Belleville any mail which went from the village to another on his route was stamped and returned to the bag while all other mail was taken to Ypsilanti from where it was sent.

Mr. Leonard often peddled papers on his route. They were bought eagerly as they contained news of the war.

The nearest railroad to Rawsonville at that time, according to Mr. Leonard, was from Detroit to Toledo through South Rockwood.

School of 85

Both Mr. and Mrs. Leonard went to a little frame school near their present home. This school at the time the Leonards attended it had about 85 or 90 pupils with but one teacher who, as a rule, was a man. Both Mr. and Mrs. Leonard are emphatic in their approval of the present day methods of teaching. In the sixties whipping was common and a switching was given for the slightest of reasons.

The most common form of whip was one which was made from willows which grew along the river bank. The long switch was cut from the tree, the bark removed and the switch put into the stove until it became strong and tough. The switch which was several feet long could be wrapped like a buggy whip around the hands of the teacher and many students went home with their ankles smarting from huge welts. Mr. Leonard, however, says that while he was not a model boy he never had much trouble with the teachers.

Mrs. Leonard, who entered the school when she was ten is very proud of the fact that while she was "called on the floor" once she never was whipped.

"Ferule" Method

Another favored method of punishment was "feruling". At one time, Mr. Leonard recalls it now with much enjoyment, about 35 of the boys of the school who were skating on the river failed to come to the school for an hour or so after the session had started in the afternoon. When they finally arrived the teacher gave each the choice of a feruling or staying in the building during the noon hour and recess periods.

To a boy they decided to take the "feruling" and the 35, standing along the wall in accordance with their height, had the palms of their hands smartly hit with a heavy ruler or ferule.

Spelling was Mrs. Leonard's most interesting subject. All the pupils were lined along the wall or in an aisle while the teacher pronounced the words by sylables. Eventually the best speller reached the head of the line. If, however, some one near the head mispelled a word the pupil who noticed the mistake when he was called on to spell a word was advanced ahead of the one who made the error.

Now the frame school house has been supplanted by a brick building in which 10-year-old Earl Smith, great grandson of Mrs. Leonard is one of the seven pupils. Next year it is probable, Mrs. Leonard believes, that there will be but four pupils because several of the pupils are to transfer to other schools.

MRS. CHEEVER JUST NEWCOMER—45 YEARS

Mrs. Elizabeth Cheever, who lives next to the church in a small white frame house, is a comparative newcomer to the village having lived there but 45 years. She is 80 years old although her sprightly manner and erect carriage belie her age. She was born in Jackson, Vermont, March 27, 1850 and lived in that state until she was 11 years old, moving to Michigan with her family then.

For many years she lived in and near Flat Rock and when a young woman was left a widow with two young children. Later she married Dennis Cheever and moved to Rawsonville where for many years she and her husband kept a general store.

She states that although she has lived in the village as long as some of the other residents she can remember when the place was a flourishing business center and that since she came there to live 60 structures have disappeared—some torn [illegible] burned down and others moved away.

Mrs. Cheever's two children are her daughter, Mrs. Everett Wiard, Ypsilanti, and Frank Graves, Chicago.

ONCE KEPT STORE

MRS. ELIZABETH CHEEVER

EDWARD McCREADY IS NATURE LOVER

Just "Mac" to his friends, Edward McCready, 74, lives contentedly in a tiny cabin perched on a hill at the northwest part of the village. His front door faces a narrow, winding road on the other side of which is an apple orchard. He likes to see the blossoms on the trees during the spring time and the colorful foliage during the summer months.

Still sturdy in spite of his years, he may often be seen rambling around the hills or his tall form may be distinguished on the river bank where he likes to fish. Though he has enjoyed living he says that if he could be young now instead of during the period at which he did enjoy his youth, he thinks he would have liked living better.

When Mr. McCready sees a caravan of new automobiles passing along the highway his eyes kindle with the remembrance of when, as a younger man, he used to take as many as 35 wagons in a single string for delivery to Jim Randall near Belleville. At that time he was a salesman for Scott and McPherson who built road carts in Ypsilanti.

Remembers Talking Points

Even now "Mac" can give the selling points of the vehicles so convincingly that one can imagine sinking down in the cushions and never feeling a bump in the road. The carts, which sold for $25 were painted brown and had two wheels. The feature of their construction was adjustable springs to accommodate one, two or three persons. The seats were made with a cushioned back, and were designed for one horse. Riding in one of them was never tiring, he says.

Just as any automobile salesman today drives a smart looking car Mr. McCready had one of the nicest "outfits" in the county. He had a span of bay ponies which could "step right out with the wagon" and which made the "prettiest team in the county". They could pick up most anybody along the road," he recalls. One he kept for 26 years.

Roads Not Good

While commenting on the changes which he has seen in transportation he said that when he lived at Wyandotte, over 40 years ago, it was not possible to go [illegible] miles out in the country during the winter time with a vehicle of any sort on account of the mud. [illegible] of having seen wagon after wagon on which the clay rolled up in such thick layers that the weight finally pulled off the wheels.

Still earlier recollections take him back to his childhood in Canada where one of the events of the year was "candle day" when families made their lighting supply. They used metal molds into which they inserted wicks and poured tallow.

Mr. McCready was born in Canada in 1856 and while still a small child came to Wyandotte with his parents where his father had a sash and blind factory. When 19 years old he came to this vicinity taking over the Peck farm and later the Crawford farm. He lived here since that time with the exception of five years spent in Florida about the time of the land boom there.

Walked Home

After his return he was in[illegible] in a fall from one of the D. J. [illegible] C. street cars and on his rec[illegible] almost a year later, again w[illegible] Florida. He stayed but [illegible] time and, always enjoying wa[illegible], he decided to return afoot. [illegible] started in the fall and arrived [illegible] at Rawsonville the next summ[illegible] a distance of 1,700 miles. He fo[illegible]ed a railroad from Jacksonville [illegible] Michigan City, Ind., and, hav[illegible] plenty of funds, bought his food [illegible] he travelled. He cooked it over [illegible] open fire and slept in the open [illegible]der trees. When he was aga[illegible] home his health was completely [illegible]gained.

An expert fisherman, he to[illegible] great pleasure in ocean fishi[illegible] while in Florida and tells of single catches averaging around 1,500 pounds. One day when fishing had been especially good the biting suddenly stopped and a huge Jew fish weighing all of 600 pounds could be seen beside the boat. Mr. McCready hit it with his oar and it swam away. The fish then began to bite again.

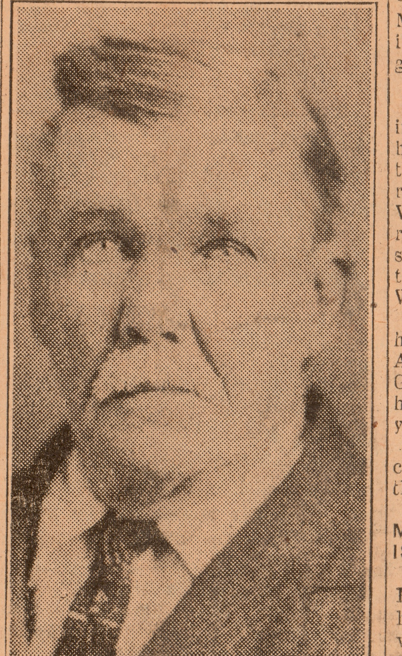
Sympathetic Friend

Mr. McCready takes an interest in his neighbors, rejoicing in their happiness and sympathizing when things are not going so well. He recalls with pleasure how Everett Wiard, whose farm is across the road, stepped out of a crowd to shake hands with him at the station when he returned from the World War.

"Mac" also likes to talk about his boys, Walter, who lives in Ann Arbor, George in Wyoming, and Gerald in Minnesota. He is still happy over the visit of Gerald, the youngest son, a few days ago.

Another son was killed in an accident and a daughter died of diphtheria.

OLD RESIDENT



EDWARD McCREADY

MRS. ADDIE FIFIELD IS TRUE PIONEER

Last in this cast is Mrs. Addie Rawson-Fifield, who was born and has lived her entire life in the village of Rawsonville. It was from her grandfather that Rawsonville got its name.

Mrs. Fifield was born September 11, 1856. Her father was a carpenter but spent most of his time on his farm, part of which was in the village. Mrs. Fifield lived in the "good old days" when woman's work was in the home and therefore she enjoyed sharing the home burdens. Mr. and Mrs. Fifield passed their fifty-first wedding anniversary Mar. 12. They have a daughter, Mrs. Pearl Dixon, living with her family in Royal Oak.

Cozy Home

They live in a cozy home across from the church on the main road and spend many hours in their cheery sitting room. They have much of the furniture which they [illegible] early in their married life and take pleasure in showing their parlor with its well filled whatnot and other pieces of furniture which have been well cared for.

Mrs. Fifield recalls her school-girl days viviedly and sighs regretfully when she compares them with the educational advantages offered today. Though the present school has only six or seven pupils there were 125 when she attended. She never knew what grade she was in as each new teacher started everyone at the first of the book. Thus she would know the first part almost by heart but never progress any further unless the same teacher happened to stay two years, which was quite unusual.

Slates for Writing

Maps, globes, library books and a clock were not included in the school and paper was likewise an unaccustomed luxury. Each child had his own slate. Classes called by the ringing of the school bell lasted all day. Vacation periods were short and the text books uninteresting. Once a year an inspector from the Normal College visited the school. Davies was the most advanced arithmetic which Mrs. Fifield used. In those days she says language was grammar, and algebra was unheard of. Spelling was not simplified and when there were several words pronounced the same but spelled differently it behooved the student to know every definition by rote.

Remembers Teachers

She recalls that George Alban, 415 Ballard St., taught at Rawsonville the last year she attended school and another old teacher of hers, was J. H. Croker, who died recently.

School days were not without their pleasures however and she remembers four big trees in the school lawn where they played "kit a corner". The stoop of the school was also a feature which the children appreciated. It was quite large and built in, affording an excellent place to play in stormy weather.

Salaries Inconsequential

Mrs. Fifield's mother was a school teacher and often told about receiving a dollar a week for her work. The rest she obtained by boarding around.

When she was 16 years old Mrs. Fifield joined the Phoenix Lodge Good Templars and in 1870 the lodge hall, which still stands across from the church, was dedicated. As the liquor question gradually died out the lodge ceased to function and was succeeded by the Sons of Temperance.

Had Better Times

Mrs. Fifield believes that she enjoyed better times in her own childhood than children do today. She believes that there was not so much wickedness then as now and recalls that no one ever stayed away from church or Sunday School. Among her most treasured possessions is a tiny autograph book given her by pupils in her Sunday School class for Christmas, 1880. Each page is decorated with a brilliantly lithographed bunch of flowers and an appropriate verse in a childish hand.

Sunday was like another day to Mrs. Fifield and one of her most vivid recollections was being given a tiny cup of coffee, mostly milk, on that day.

His Baby Night Cap

Mrs. Fifield still has the night cap which she wore as a baby and tells of how amusing it looks now on her grandchild.

She is one of a family of six children and is the only one still alive. All her family are buried in the old Soop Cemetery.

She is an active member of the Helping Hand Society and says that she will not give up her work in it for an ache or a pain" but will [illegible] as long as she is able.

A. D. FIFIELD BORN [illegible] YORK

A. D. Fifield was born Nov. 8, [illegible] in York Township, Michigan. With the exception of a few months spent in New Hampshire and New York, Mr. Fifield has spent his life in and very near Rawsonville. He was a farmer and stock buyer.

[illegible] Fifield recalls the assassination of President Lincoln and [illegible]y remembers seeing the body [illegible] great President as it lay in [illegible] in the depot at New York while he and his parents [illegible] enroute to New Hampshire.

[illegible]. Fifield's father owned several farms near Rawsonville and [illegible] also a minister.

[illegible]. Fifield went to school in Willow Run and continued to attend school even after moving to Rawsonville district. He and [illegible] brother walked two miles daily rather than leave the companions they had at Willow Run.

Have Lived History

These seven old residents have literally seen the rise and fall of Rawsonville. Not only have they seen industries rise and fall but most of the houses have been torn down and moved away and the Huron River has undergone great changes. At first it was an ordinary, small river until a dam was built, forming a large pond above the village. After the dam washed away, the river sank to the lowest stage possible and still be called a river. In very recent years due to the building of a large dam several miles below the village, the river has assumed the proportions of a beautiful lake and a dyke was built to prevent the encroachment of the water to the village homes.

Meanwhile, this little group of pioneers persistently looks on the bright side of life in their declining years, hoping for return of the days when Rawsonville existed "in all its glory."

RAWSONVILLE OF TODAY

Bird's eye view of the village of Rawsonville, taken from the top of the hill north of the village. In the foreground is the little church and the old shed which once sheltered the horses and buggies of the worshippers. The shed was torn down this spring, as it had fallen into bad condition through disuse. The church is seldom used as services have been discontinued. The river and the high bridge across, can be seen in the background.

OLDEST RESIDENT AND FAITHFUL WIFE

Henry Leonard is the oldest resident of Rawsonville. He and Mrs. Leonard have lived for many years near the little church.

VILLAGE NAMED FOR FAMILY OF RESIDENT

Rawsonville was named for the Rawson family, parents of Mrs. Amos Fifield.

When The River Is Low

View of the Huron river, and the high bridge, as it appeared when water was low. The new Detroit Edison dam, farther east, has raised the water level, until the river assumes the proportions of a lake, and dykes have been built to keep water from basements of homes in the neighborhood.

The Village Church

The little Methodist Church, where the townspeople worshipped in the days when Rawsonville was a thriving village. Recently services have been discontinued and the church closed, except for special occasions. Rawsonville is part of the Belleville charge.

— Rawsonville —

MR., MRS. BEN OWEN ENTERTAIN CLUB

Rawsonville, Mich., Apr. 12.—Six Nine Pedro Club was entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Ben Owen.

There were five tables of players. High scores were won by Mrs. Agnes Corkins and Nelson Rogers while Mrs. Lucy Allen and Wilmer Corkins took consolations. Mrs. Owen then served a delicious lunch.

Mrs. Harriett Smith, Cleveland, O., spent a few days at the home of her mother, Mrs. Henry Leonard.

HELPING HAND SOCIETY WILL BEET THURSDAY

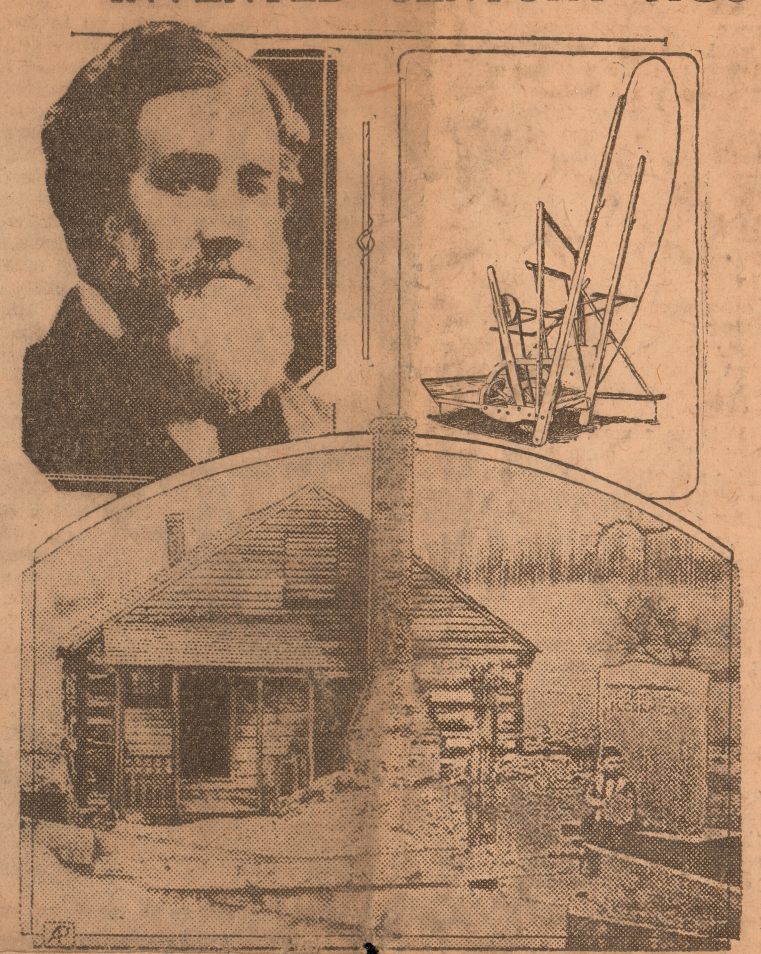
Helping Hand Society has been postponed until Thursday. The society was entertained Wednesday by the Belleville Ladies' Aid Society. Eleven from Rawsonville attended.

Supper for Club

Pleasure Club will meet Friday evening with an early supper preceeding the program.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Zebell, Detrot, were Sunday callers of Mr. [illegible]

McCORMICK'S REAPER INVENTED CENTURY AGO



In this little workshop at Raphine, Va. (center), the first reaper was built in 1831 by Cyrus H. McCormick (inset) similar to model shown in sketch.

Raphine, Va., Apr. 12.—AP—A little farm shop in the Virginia hills will have an important part in the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the reaper in 1931.

It was there that Cyrus H. McCormick constructed the "contraption" that was to revolutionize agriculture and give to the world cheap bread.

The first reaper was crude, but the principle remains the same in the efficient machines of today.

Celebration of the 100th anniversary will be national and possibly international in its scope.

Virginia, naturally, will be interested in the 100th anniversary, although it has long since given place to the mid-west as a leader in grain production.

A model of the first crude machine is preserved in the state museum at Richmond.

Cyrus McCormick was one of the many who toiled on farms, swinging the old-fashioned "cradle" through the wheat on his father's acres in Rockbridge County, Virginia.

He profited by the mistakes of his father, who had sought unsuccessfully to construct a harvesting machine. His father's plan of a machine to be pushed was abandoned.

Instead McCormick adopted a cutting blade on the side. Then followed the device to separate the stalks to place them in cutting position, and arms to gather the fallen stalks. The machine floundered along the field, a "joke," to some of the neighbors. But it worked.

The McCormick home lay in the Shenandoah valley, a spot to be known in after years as the "granary of the Confederacy" because of its productiveness.

NEW CORPORATIONS

Lansing, Mich., Apr. 12.—UP—The secretary of state announced the following corporation franchises:

C. G. Albert, Inc., Covert, $50,000. Purpose: Deal in real estate, stocks, bonds and other securities. Incorporators: S. B. Monroe, Kalamazoo, George C. Monroe, and C. O. Monroe, South Haven.

Dance Box Corporation of America, Flint, $7,500. Purpose: Operate and maintain dance halls, music halls, street circus, etc. Incorporators: John Murphy, Santiago Calvo, Flint, and Reginald M. Dailey, Detroit.

Dissolutions

Klein Allmar, Inc., Grand Rapids, $10,000.

Whole or Half
SEMI-BONELESS HAMS 59c lb.

Peschke
Skinless FRANKS 43c lb.
Bulk Selection

GRADUATION PARTIES?
Plan from our complete selection of
COLD MEATS . . .

Lindsay Select RIPE OLIVES Tall 35c
Daily Hamburger—16 oz. DILL SLICES 23c
Plumrose DANISH HAMS 2 lbs. $2.29
Brach's—12½ oz. CIRCUS PEANUTS 29c
F.A.G. RICE 2 lbs. 39c
25 ft. REYNOLDS WRAP 33c
Nine Lives—6 oz. CAT FOOD 3 for 49c
60 Off Label SNOWDRIFT 3 lbs. 77c
Open Pit—18 oz. BARBECUE SAUCE 4c off 35c
FAB 7c off Label 69c
Reg. 3 for 33c
2 for 49c
4 for 35c

Sanborn
59c
3 for 25c
7 oz. 45c

Now

...wsonville Inn Torn Down

6-13-62

...bigger than either Ypsilanti or Ann Arbor and even bid to have the University of Michigan located there.

The little church, which was dedicated with pride in 1879, and which finally deteriorated to apple storage, is also to be torn...

...sides having a clear grasp of the fundamental principles of sex morality would have also an appreciation of modern tendencies and would be in a position to offer rational advice."

It also urges that "in the interest of morality and sound scientific knowledge" the laws in New York and Connecticut be changed to remove the restrictions which now forbid the communication by physicians to their patients of medical information on birth control.

Needless to say, it is the judicious use, not the abuse of such information that the church authorities approve. There seems to be a marked shift of respectable public opinion in that direction.

FLIERS AND ENGINEERS

Members of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers say they are going to invite air pilots to join their ranks. The implication is that running an airplane is the same sort of work as running a locomotive.

It is, in a way. But the air men don't think so. They consider their employment a profession and are filled with professional pride. They have their own organization, too, which serves many of the purposes of an ordinary union.

Even that doesn't prove anything. More than one profession, including college professors, has been known to join the Federation of Labor. As air piloting becomes a more numerous occupation, the National Air Pilots may ally themselves with one of the big organizations.

PERMITS FOR SUICIDE

A western religious leader wants the state of Colorado to control suicide by giving its official approval in suitable cases.

"The would-be suicide would have to go before a state commission and convince it he had a logical reason for doing away with himself. If his reason was good enough, and if the commission couldn't change his mind, he would be given permission to die—in a nice way."

We needn't laugh. It is a serious subject, and this proposal is probably no less rational than many others that have been considered.

It is desirable that any person contemplating suicide should talk it over with others, who are in a normal state of mind, and who may point the way to a better solution of his problem. There has been for years a society with headquarters in New York which aims to check suicide in this manner. But it doesn't seem to have accomplished much.

The difficulty is that a person contemplating self-destruction seldom wants to admit it to anyone else. Suicide is a terribly personal thing. Which of course is the greatest possible mistake. Mental burdens, shared with others, lose most of their evil power.

In February and March the great indoor sport is studying seed catalogs. Now our favorite literature is that sent out by steamship companies and railroads.

The Prince of Wales has been lost for a week in an African marsh, and he's had the time of his life. Not a cornerstone to lay or a convention to open for seven days.

Why not keep some of the copies at home and study them so we will know what a nice town we live in. The article states that Ypsilanti has excellent facilities for a manufacturing center and is well outside of high taxes and living expenses. Evidently, the city would like to have manufacturers take notice. If so, why not go to the trouble to keep what we have and what is proving to be a success? I am referring to the United States Pressed Steel Co., which is considering going to some other place as other cities are offering them splendid inducements. At the time Mr. Brown started business here, they were making mostly whiffletrees, and the entire force consisted of one boss and one other man and they were keeping all orders well up. We have watched the growth of this plant and know that it was uphill work to bring it to where it is, with an average of 150 employees, and bringing in thousands of dollars each month to our city.

As we understand it, the Pressed Steel is not asking for any gifts, only a little financial aid which it will pay back in a short time, and have water and gas provided them. The city wants to sell both, and what is the difference whether they sell it in the city or out of it can make money at it, and it will open up a large territory where others will want to buy. Evidently Detroit thinks it pays or they would not put gas nearly to our city; and I believe it won't be long before they will bring it to the city limits and cut off our chance for that business. What if the Pressed Steel does ask for something, does it not come back to us and help us all?

Read the article on page 2 and then see if we cannot help boost what we already have.

ANOTHER MOST INTERESTED CITIZEN

ANNIVERSARIES

1713 — Abbe Raynal, French writer, who wrote an early, noted book on America born. Died March 6, 1793.

1777 — Henry Clay, noted Kentucky statesman, born in Hanover Co., Va. Died in Washington D. C. June 29, 1852.

1819 — James Starr Lippincott, one of the first scientific agriculturists in America, born in Philadelphia. Died at Greenwich, N. J. March 17, 1885.

1822— Donald G. Mitchell ("Ik Marvel") noted author of his day, born at Norwich, Conn. Died at Edgewood, Conn., Dec. 15, 1908.

1839 — John Shaw Billings army surgeon and librarian born in Switzerland Co., Ind. Died in New York City March 11 1913.

1860 — Garrett Droppers, economist, U. S. Minister to Greece, born in Milwaukee. Died at Williamstown, Mass., July 7, 1927.

DIPLOMATIC GLENNA

New York, Apr. 12—AP—A diplomat is the clever and winsome Glenna Collett. Eighteen girls want to help defeat John Bull's feminine team, which is limited to ten. "Who will weed out the Americans? I don't know; not I," says Captain Glenna.

Skowhegan and the Mount Katahdin neighborhood and the Aroostook valley, where he owns a railroad or two, nearly all the power sources out of doors and some millions of dollars' worth of miscellaneous properties.

* * *

SENATOR GOULD is not a candidate to succeed himself, because he does not want to be.

He is not homesick. He does not pretend that his business interests compel him to quit politics. Inured to hard work all his life, it is not leisure that he craves. He is in corking good health for a man of 73.

Evidently, somehow, the senate has disappointed him.

"It has, for a fact," candidly admits the statesman from Presque Isle.

"If I were going to stay in congress at all—which, mind you," he qualified, "I am not, a minute after noon, March 4, 1931—I'd prefer the house of representatives."

* * *

WHAT an unusual choice! Representatives are trying constantly to get into the senate. A senator mighty seldom wishes he were a representative. Except a very few of the most important bosses, representatives enjoy nothing like the pres...

...it off altogether?

"Altogether? no, of course not," rejoined the Presque Islander, "and neither is the house of representatives choked off altogether. If a reasonable amount of discussion is necessary, to decide business questions, I'm in favor of it. But not pure talk, simply for talk's sake.

"I don't like to criticize my fellow senators, but something certainly ought to be done to restrain a few of the wild ones."

* * *

YET there seems to be little prospect of an improvement—for the senate makes its own rules, and a majority of the senators must believe in their present method, or they could and would alter it.

The Pine Tree legislator nodded gloomily.

"I can easily tell you what's the matter," he said.

"It's that damn primary system.

"In the old days the conventions were held—at least in states like mine—at seasons when the farmers were too busy to get into town to attend them, so only the competent business men attended, and they nominated first-class candidates. Now everybody votes and politicians worm themselves in by popular appeals that don't mean anything."

Why We Do It-

Why We Laugh

By MEHRAN K. THOMSON, Ph. D.

Why do you laugh when you are tickled? Why do some situations make one person laugh and another cry? Why are some jokes too painful to be funny? Why should any provoke laughter? What is a sense of humor?

According to one view we laugh because we feel superior. When you tease or poke fun at another person you place him in an embarrassing ... an inferior position and at the same time elevate yourself to a higher level of security and superiority. You can afford to laugh because you have everything to gain and nothing to lose. One who is the butt end of a joke does not usually laugh because the situation is too painful for him. He is made self-conscious and confused. He experiences a sense of loss—the loss of dignity and poise. And the greater the dignity at stake the more laughable becomes the situation—for the onlooker.

Another explanation of why we laugh is that the sudden release of tension brings a sense of ...ation and safety which relaxes the erstwhile tense muscles into a smile and we laugh to work off the pent up emotions caused by the previous moments of strain. Suspicion leading to an anti-climax is funny because the ending is trivial. These moments follow each other in dramatic succession. First there is a tense moment of expectation and possibly fear. Then we suddenly realize that nothing serious is going to happen and we are tickled into laughter. We feel safe and are well able to afford to relax and enjoy ourselves.

We laugh from a sense of superiority and safety, we also laugh to work off emotional steam as the result of some tension

Monday—Why We Cry

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TODAY IN HISTORY

1693 — William Bradford set ... the first printing press in New York.

1808 — U. S. Army raised to ... regiments of infantry, one of riflemen, one of light artillery, and one of light dragoons.

1811 — Trading post of Astoria was established on the Pacific.

1861 — Edmund Ruffin, a ...year-old Virginian fired the first gun against Fort Sumpter.

1878 — William M. Tweed, probably the most notorious figure in American politics, died in Ludlow Street Jail, New York.

LET ADS PAY FOR DUMP CANS SAYS NEW YORKER

New York, Apr. 12—AP—Advertisements on refuse receptacles at street corners! William Schroeder, Jr., chairman of the city's sanitation commission, has an idea. ...ch receptacles would cost the ...y $500,000, but ads could be ...de to pay for them.

TWENTY YEARS AGO

In The Daily Press

A meeting of the Ypsilanti Woman's Club was held with Mrs. S. B. Lockwood. Mrs. Lockwood was elected president, Mrs. Gertrude Erwin and Mrs. C. H. Roberts, vice presidents; Mrs. ...R. George, recording secretary; Mrs. Cora Knight, corresponding secretary and Mrs. Ray Arnold, treasurer.

* * * *

People planning to attend the opening banquet, musical and ball April 21 at the new Masonic Temple are requested to send names to Smith Brothers' drug store.

* * * *

Conference is to be held with Miss Olmsted to consider forming an Art Association in Ypsilanti.

* * * *

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Frank Whitman, River St., a son.

* * * *

Neighbors and friends joined Mr. and Mrs. Robert Young at their home for the celebration of their tenth anniversary.

THE QUESTION BOX

...swers to questions of information and fact can be obtained by writing to the Ypsilanti Daily Press and enclosing a self-addressed stamped envelope. No answers will be given to marital, medical or legal questions.

HERE is information for those who have been befogged concerning the matter of Germany's war debts. It was provided by Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Walter E. ... as material with which to pro... an answer for W. H. Wenz of ... (Ore.)

The Treaty of Versailles did not fix a definite sum that Germany must pay to the allies, but did charge Germany with payment of their reparation claims. The reparation commission later fixed the amount of these claims at 132,000,000,000 gold marks, or about $31,400,000,000, which was not changed until the Young plan.

Under the Dawes plan, Germany was to pay to the Allies, after the first four years, a standard annuity of 2,500,000,000 gold marks, or about ...5,000,000, subject to an increase by a so-called index of prosperity. The Dawes plan did not stipulate any period of time for these annuities to run, but they were intended to continue until confidence was restored, leading eventually to a final and comprehensive agreement.

The Young plan, which presumably settles the reparation question, provides that Germany shall pay to its creditors an average annuity over a period of 37 years of 1,988,800,000 reichsmarks, or about $473,000,000, ... varying annuities over a period of 22 additional years.

Erdman Act

What was the Erdman act and when was it passed?

Passed in 1898, this federal measure provided for mediation and voluntary arbitration in case of controversies arising between railroad companies and their employes directly engaged in the movement of trains, namely, engineers, firemen, conductors, trainmen, switchmen and telegraphers.

The Civil Service

How many civil service employes are there in the United States and in which department is the greatest number reported?

On December 31, 1928, there were 573,107, according to the report of the Civil Service commission. Of this number 312,971 are employes of the postoffice department. The treasury department was next with a total of 51,855 employes.

Proving a Rule

Why doesn't an exception disprove a rule instead of proving it?

We are of the opinion that it does disprove it. The statement made by Shakespeare has undoubtedly been misunderstood. The term "proves" was unquestionably used to denote "test" and if, in the process of testing, the exception proved strong enough, the rule was no longer a general statement of value, but must be qualified.

No, there is no justice. We censor books and plays, and yet let tenors sing all they want to.

Diet and Health

By LULU HUNT PETERS, M.D. AUTHOR OF "DIET AND HEALTH" AND "DIET FOR CHILDREN"

Spinach

DEAR DOCTOR: Where and by what juices is spinach digested? I can't digest it; never did. J."

Lulu Hunt Peters, M. D.

Like all natural foods, there is in spinach the three chief food principles: protein, fat and carbohydrates. (Of 100 calories of boiled spinach—7 ounces—there are approximately 12 of protein, 8 fat, 80 carbohydrates.) And the same digestive juices that work on these principles in other foods also affect them in spinach.

First, there is a slight changing of starch into sugar by the saliva. In the stomach, starch digestion goes on a little further, but it is the proteins that are mainly worked on here, by the hydrochloric acid and the pepsin. In the small intestines, the carbohydrate and protein digestion is completed by the pancreatic and the intestinal juices and the fats are worked on by these and the bile. It is only after the foods have been chemically changed that they are absorbed by the blood and lymph vessels of the millions of little projections, or villi, of the intestines.

If spinach disagrees with you, it may be possible that you have an allergy or idiosyncrasy to it; that means some unfavorable reaction which is not experienced by the large majority. (This may be due to some irritation of the intestinal mucous membranes from some cause.)

Spinach is being knocked considerably lately, I notice; because it has a slight amount of oxalic acid. (Rhubarb and sorrel, tea and coffee and pepper, are other foods listed in Kellogg as containing oxalic acid.) However, it is only in those who have a severe case of acidosis that these foods would have to be limited, although Kellogg believes that rhubarb has so much oxalic acid that it should be avoided by all.

Spinach, however, is so high in iron and vitamins that it should not lose its high place in the diet circle. The oxalic acid can easily be removed by slight parboiling.

We have an article on Balanced Diet which may help you to check up on your diet. See column rules for obtaining it.

* * *

Mrs. Y.: You should see a surgeon about your rupture, either to be advised about a truss or as to an operation.

During growth sometimes the openings of small hernias will close with development of the muscles by special exercises, but there is no hope of that for you, I'm afraid, at your age and the size of your rupture. Do not depend upon any advertised contrivances without first seeing your doctor. There is always danger of a hernia's becoming caught between the muscles so that it becomes strangulated, and this may be very dangerous. (I mean the hernias that are not cared for correctly.)

* * *

Miss T.: You should have a complete physical examination, including urinalysis. Perhaps an overconcentrated urine may be causing your itching. And sugar in the urine, as occurs in diabetes, will also cause this itching.

We have a pamphlet on Kidney and Bladder Disorders which gives a simple test for detecting sugar in the urine. See column rules for obtaining it.

* * *

Editor's Note: Dr. Peters cannot diagnose nor give personal advice. Your questions, if of general interest, will be answered in the column in their turn. Requests for articles or pamphlets on hand must be accompanied by a fully self-addressed, stamped envelope, plus the following small charge to help cover cost of printing and handling: for each article wanted, two cents in coin; for each pamphlet ten cents in coin. The pamphlets are *Reducing and Gaining, Hygiene of Women, Kidney and Bladder Disorders.* Address Dr. Peters, in care of this paper. Write legibly, and not over 200 words.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS

William B. Bankhead, representing the 10th Alabama district in Congress, born in Moscow, Ala., 56 years ago.

Dr. Daniel L. Marsh, president of Boston University, born in West Newton, Pa., 50 years ago.

Julian Street, novelist, born in Chicago, 51 years ago.

TODAY'S HOROSCOPE

Here are the characteristics which the stars reveal for the person born today.

You who are born this day have a tendency to a melancholy nature, which threatens to become disorderly and lead you astray. There may be much indecision, faulty judgment, and a want of direction. If the ambition be once aroused, there is a sure reward, for there is plenty of ability. Success will often appear to come by mere chance.

How Well Do You Know Your Bible?

FIVE QUESTIONS A DAY ON FAMILIAR PASSAGES

5. Lazarus; John 11: 1,2.

1. Finish Job's sentence, "Man is born unto trouble...."
2. What was the significance of "the angel that troubled the water"?
3. Finish the proverb, "Better is a dinner of herbs where love is..."
4. Give the source of the motto on the Liberty Bell, "Proclaim liberty throughout all the land to all the inhabitants thereof."
5. Whose face, when he was on trial for his life, was said to be as that of an angel?

(Answers will be found on classified page)

ROAD APPROVED

Lansing, Mich., Apr. 11.—A new highway, from a point north of Toledo straight north to US-10 (Woodward Ave.), between Pontiac and Flint, was approved by the highway advisory board at its semi-annual meeting here. The project is one of several adding approximately 140 miles to the state highway system. It was suggested by Highway Commissioner Grover C. Dillman.

MANISTEE, Mich.—Ten additional wells will be sunk in the oil and gas field of Manistee during the next five months by the firm of Diamond, Thompson and Holland. M. I. Diamond, president of the concern announced Friday. Contracts already have been made for all natural gas found, Diamond said.

D. S. R. DEFICIT

Detroit, Mich., Apr. 12.—March spelled a deficit of $112,626 for the department of street railways, against a net profit of $44,766 a year ago, Del A. Smith, general manager, reported Friday.

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Prices In One-ton Lots or More, C. O. D.

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Solvay Coke, Egg Size	$9.50 Per Ton
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